

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/980,880
	Filing Date	September 3, 2002
	First Named Inventor	Yoshio GODA, et al.
	Art Unit	1745
	Examiner Name	Robert W. Hodge
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8189US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> PTO 2038 Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation, Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO-2038 Return postcard (2) References EU Search Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request		
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement		
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
<b>Remarks:</b>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT			
Firm Name	RatnerPrestia		
Signature			
Printed Name	Lawrence E. Ashery		
Date	March 6, 2007	Registration No.	34,515

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Signature			
Typed or Printed Name	Beth Johnson	Date	March 6, 2007

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Office, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

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PAT-8189US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: 09/980,880  
Applicant: Y. GODA et al.  
Filed: September 3, 2002  
Title: TOP SEALING PLATE, BATTERY USING THE TOP SEALING PLATE, AND  
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE BATTERY  
TC/A.U.: 1745  
Examiner: Robert W. Hodge

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b forms submitted herewith. Copies of the references listed, other than U.S. patents, are enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following references are not in the English Language:

1. JP 61-114466
2. JP 59-189557

References 1) and 2) include an English language abstract.

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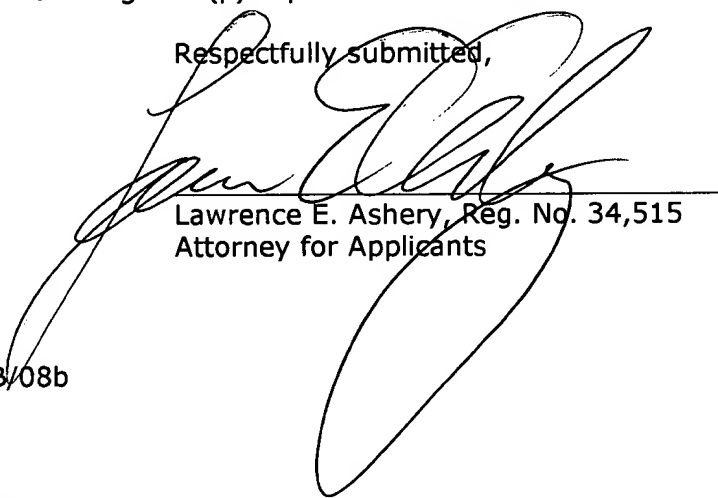
References 1) and 2) were cited by a foreign patent examining authority in connection with the examination of a counterpart of the above identified application. A copy of this English language search report, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent office is submitted herewith. MPEP Section 609(a)iii, second paragraph.

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) [choose one]**

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

The required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is provided herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515  
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/bj

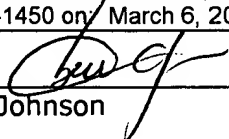
Enclosures: PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b  
(2) References  
Search Report  
Transmittal Form  
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Dated: March 6, 2007

P.O. Box 980  
Valley Forge, PA 19482  
(610) 407-0700

The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith..

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Beth Johnson

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 2

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/980,880
Filing Date	September 3, 2002
First Named Inventor	Y. GODA et al.
Art Unit	1745
Examiner Name	Robert W. Hodge
Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8189US

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-4,662,533	05-05-1987	TAKAHASHI AKIRA et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
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		US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 61 114466 (w/English Abstract)	06-02-1986	SHIN KOBE ELECTRIC MACHINERY		
		JP 59 189557 (w/English Abstract)	10-27-1984	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		<input type="checkbox"/>
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

<sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

<sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

<sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete If Known**

Application Number 09/980,880

Filing Date September 3, 2002

First Named Inventor Y. GODA et al.

Art Unit 1745

Examiner Name Robert W. Hodge

Attorney Docket No. MAT-8189US

SHEET 2 of 2

**NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
		European Search Report for corresponding European Patent Application No. 01 906 345.2 dated February 20, 2007.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

<sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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